tion of horticulture crops damaged due to cyclone in Orissa. Rs. 8.07 crores has also been released from the allocation for the year 1999-2000 under these schemes.

Visit of World Bank Team to Orissa

2320. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Team visited Orissa to assess cyclone damage;

(b) whether the World Bank Team has submitted the report in that regard;

(c) if so, the estimated damage assessed by the World Bank Team;

(d) the reaction of Government thereto;

(e) the assistance extended to the State Government by the Centre or World Bank thereof; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The World Bank Team has not yet made any exact estimate of the damage nor finalised details of their assistance.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Changes in Agriculture Insurance Scheme

2321. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government regrding changes in the proposed Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the proposal is under consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh Government has suggested the following changes in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS):

1. The sharing pattern between Government of India and State Government should be continued as 2:1.
2. The creation of 'Corpus Fund' is not justifiable and may be dropped.
3. Administrative expenditure of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) should be borne by Government of India.
4. The expenditure on crop cutting experiments and other incidental expenditure should also be shared between Government of India and State Government in the ratio of 2:1.
5. The sunset arrangements for taking away the benefit of subsidised premium to small and marginal farmers need reconsideration.

(c) The suggestions given by the Government of Andhra Pradesh would be considered at the time of review of the scheme.

National Food Processing Policy

2322. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government would shortly announce a National Food Processing Policy to handle the problem of wastages;

(b) if so, when and details of policy;

(c) whether it is a fact that Food Processing Industries had prepared a preliminary report on the issue; and

(d) if so, the highlights of this Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF